

PRESS RELEASE

July 27, 2006

RE: UNITED STATES v. DARNELL MOBLEY
WILLY M. SELLERS
HUBERT SPATES
ARLANDER L. CHAPPELLE
GLENN THOMPSON
TRENT G. HUGHES
MILDRED GRAVES

United States Attorney Terrance P. Flynn announced today the return of a six count indictment charging the following individuals with conspiring to possess with intent to distribute and to distribute five kilograms or more of cocaine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846:

DARNELL MOBLEY, age 33, of 159-26 Harlem River Drive, New York, NY;
WILLY M. SELLERS, age 30, of 140 Parkdale Avenue, Buffalo, NY;
HUBERT SPATES, age 53, of 17 Deerfield Street, Buffalo, NY;
ARLANDER L. CHAPPELLE, age 53, of 219 Brunswick Avenue, Buffalo, NY;
GLENN THOMPSON, age 42, of 1145 Katherine Street, Newark, NJ;
TRENT G. HUGHES, age 39, of 101 Jane Street, New York, NY; and
MILDRED GRAVES, age 56, of 455 Emerson Street, Rochester, NY.

The conspiracy charge carries a minimum term of imprisonment of 10

years, a maximum term of imprisonment of life, and/or a \$4,000,000 fine. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. **(Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6)).**

The indictment also charges Mobley, Hughes and Graves with possessing 500 grams of cocaine with the intent to distribute it, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a) and 841(b)(1)(B), which carries a minimum term of imprisonment of 5 years, a maximum term of imprisonment of 40 years, and/or a \$2,000,000 fine. Mobley is also charged with distributing cocaine on two occasions, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(a), which carries a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years, and/or a \$1,000,000 fine.

Finally, the indictment charges Mobley with possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c), which carries a minimum term of imprisonment of 5 years in addition to any term of imprisonment imposed for the drug crimes, and with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g), which carries a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years. Each of the firearm counts against Mobley also is punishable by a fine of up to \$250,000.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph J. Karaszewski stated that the indictment charges the defendants with participating in a cocaine distribution conspiracy from June 2005 to October 2005. Mobley is accused of obtaining kilogram quantities of cocaine from Hughes in New York City, transporting it to Buffalo and distributing it to others charged in the conspiracy. Others in the conspiracy also are alleged to have assisted Mobley in transporting the cocaine. Graves was arrested in Buffalo on October 2, 2005, after returning from New York City with approximately 1.7 kilograms of cocaine concealed in the car she was driving. Mobley was arrested on October 1, 2005, outside of New York City in connection with this conveyance of cocaine.

Mobley is also charged with selling cocaine to a police informant on June 23, 2005 and September 2, 2005. The firearms charges against Mobley are based on the seizure on October 2, 2005, of a semiautomatic weapon, which Buffalo Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration discovered while searching a residence on Effner Street in Buffalo.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force, the Buffalo Police Department, the Erie County District Attorney's Office, the New York State Police, New York State Parole, and the United States Marshals Service all participated in the investigation.